

The concept of any entity in the broadcast stream being able to disable any use of content (which consumers are generally paying for via cable / dbs subscriptions) except immediate viewing is extreme and unpallatable. I think a much better solution which provides consumers with most of the rights we have today would be to only allow recorders to copy once. A paying consumer could record a show to timeshift it but not re-record it. If I recall correctly, this seems to be the idea that killed consumer use of DAT.

Personally, I would rather have the existing copyright laws be enforced and allow law abiding citizens to use the content as they have since the invention of the VCR. A simple flag will not stop media sharing by those interested. Anyone who looks at any consumer level encryption knows they will be broken (CSS, digital cell phones, DBS, ...) The software industry has gone away from copy protection via various schemes because every one failed.

There is no reason to cripple every electronic device except a CRT at someone else's beck and call. If the existing media companies do not want to play in the new world, let them die. Buggy whip manufacturers died after Henry Ford revolutionized transportation.